

Senate Resolution 951

By: Senator Unterman of the 45th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and remembering Martha Talbot Eaves; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Martha Talbot Eaves was born in Atlanta on January 16, 1917, and has a long
3 history of advocacy beginning with her introduction to organized labor by her grandfather
4 who founded what is known today as the International Association of Machinists and
5 Aerospace Workers; and

6 WHEREAS, at the age of 44, Ms. Eaves entered Georgia State University and graduated at
7 50 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature; and

8 WHEREAS, after Ms. Eaves retired in 1978, her tireless advocacy on behalf of Georgia's
9 seniors began; and

10 WHEREAS, she served on and acted in leadership roles for numerous councils, committees,
11 and task forces, and was a long-time member and former chair of the Georgia Council on
12 Aging, delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Aging and named by Governor
13 Perdue to be a delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, and member of the
14 Long-Term Care Study Commission and the Senate Elder Abuse Task Force, among others;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Eaves was recognized by state and national organizations for her advocacy
17 including the Elder Rights and Advocacy Award for the Elder Law Committee of the State
18 Bar of Georgia, the Tom Murphy State Services Award for Human Services and Health Care
19 in 2002, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare Salute to Leaders
20 in Aging Award in 2004, and the Georgia Commission on Women Georgia's Legacy—Older
21 Women Recognition in 2005; and

1 WHEREAS, the Georgia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program created "The Martha Eaves
2 Award" in 2000 to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Martha, its first recipient, and other
3 advocates for long-term care residents; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Eaves was an unblinking presence at every budget conference committee
5 meeting, even those lasting into the early morning, and was a stickler for fairness and honesty
6 in testimony as well as informal conversations with legislators and policy makers, often
7 reminding everyone that "all we have is our integrity"; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Eaves died August 13, 2005, at her home in Conyers after a brief illness
9 and leaves as her legacy an unflagging commitment to advocacy; and

10 WHEREAS, in her effectiveness as a lobbyist on issues affecting the elderly she became, in
11 effect, the "face of the elderly" by simply showing up.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
13 express their deepest and most profound regret at the passing of Ms. Martha Talbot Eaves
14 and recognize and commend her as the Distinguished Senior Georgian for 2006.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
16 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Ms. Martha Talbot Eaves.